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APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT
SPECIFICATION

(MBHB Case No. 99,599; 3Com Case No. 2626.S4.US.P)

Title: **PROXIMITY-BASED REGISTRATION ON A DATA NETWORK
TELEPHONY SYSTEM**

Inventors: Guido M. Schuster, a citizen of Switzerland, and a resident of Des Plaines,
Illinois;

Sagan Sidhu, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Vernon Hills,
Illinois;

Ikhlaq S. Sidhu, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Vernon
Hills, Illinois; and

Jacek A. Grabiec, a citizen of Poland, and a resident of Chicago, Illinois.

Priority: This application is a Continuation-In-Part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/451,388, filed November 30, 1999 by Guido M. Schuster, et al., and
titled "System and Method for Providing User Mobility Services on a
Telephone Network," which is a Continuation-In-Part of U.S. Patent
Application No. 09/181,431, filed October 30, 1998 by Peter Si-Sheng
Wang, et. al., and titled "Method, Apparatus and Communications System
for Companion Information and Network Appliances," both of which are
assigned to 3Com Corporation.

Assignee: 3Com Corporation
5400 Bayfront Plaza
Santa Clara, California 95052

Proximity-Based Registration on a Data Network Telephony System

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A. Priority

5 This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 09/451,388, ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,446,127} filed November 30, 1999 by inventors Guido Schuster, Ikhlaq Sidhu, Jerry Mahler, Rick Dean, Jacek Grabiec, and Ismail Dalgic, titled "System and Method for Providing User Mobility Services on a Telephone Network," assigned to 3Com Corporation, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Number 09/181,431, filed October 30, 1998 ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,161,134} by inventors Peter Si-Sheng Wang and Ismail Dalgic, titled "Method, Apparatus and Communications System for Companion Information and Network Appliances," also assigned to 3Com Corporation.

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B. Field of the Invention

The present invention is related to providing user mobility services on a network. In particular, the present invention relates to providing proximity-based registration services on a data network telephony system.

C. Description of the Related Art

For many years, telephone service providers on the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) provided their customers nothing more than a telephone line to use to communicate with other subscribers. Over time, telephone service providers have enhanced their service by providing Custom Local Area Signaling Service (CLASS) features to their customers. Similar communication services are provided by a Private Branch Exchange (PBX), which is typically implemented in a nonresidential setting.

The CLASS features permit customer subscribers of the features to tailor their telephone service according to individual needs. Some of the more popular CLASS features are:

- *Call blocking*: The customer may specify one or more numbers from which he or she does not want to receive calls. A blocked caller will hear a rejection message, while the callee will not receive any indication of the call.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

A. Related Applications

The following references to patent applications are incorporated by reference herein:

- 5 * "System And Method For Providing Telephone Service Having Private Branch
Exchange Features In A Data Network Telephony System" to Schuster et al.,
Serial NO. 09/515,365
~~Attorney Docket No. 99,366~~, filed concurrently herewith;
- * "System And Method For Providing A Wireless Data Network Telephone
System" to Schuster et al., *Serial NO. 09/515,798, now*
~~Attorney Docket No. 99,590~~, filed concurrently
10 ~~Abandoned~~
herewith;
- * "System And Method For Accessing A Network Server Using A Portable
Information Devices Through A Network Based Telecommunication System" to
Serial NO. 09/516,969, now Abandoned
Schuster et al., ~~Attorney Docket No. 99,592~~, filed concurrently herewith;
- * "System And Method For Accessing Radio Programs Using A Data Network
15 Telephone In A Network Based Telecommunication System" to Schuster et al.,
Serial NO. 09/516,269
~~Attorney Docket No. 99,742~~, filed concurrently herewith;
- * "System And Method For Providing Local Information In A Data Network
Telephone System" to Schuster et al., *U.S. Patent NO. 6,650,901*
~~Attorney Docket No. 99,838~~, filed
concurrently herewith;
- 20 * "System And Method For Enabling A Portable Information Device For Use In A
Data Network Telephone System" to Schuster et al., *Serial NO. 09/515,795*
~~Attorney Docket No. 99,741~~,
now Abandoned
filed concurrently herewith;
- * "Dialing Token For Initiating A Telephone Connection In A Data Network
Telephone System" to Schuster et al., *Serial NO. 09/515,364*
~~Attorney Docket No. 99,375~~, filed
25 concurrently herewith;
- * "Flexible Dial Plan for a Data Network Telephony System" to Schuster, et al.,
U.S. Patent NO. 6,173,163
~~Attorney Docket No. 99,374~~, filed concurrently herewith;
- * "Personalized Call Announcement on a Data Network Telephony System" to
Serial NO. 09/515,387
Schuster, et al., ~~Attorney Docket No. 99,597~~, filed concurrently herewith;

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Serial No. 09/515,970

new U.S. Patent No. 6,446,187.

now U.S. Patent No. 6,584,490

1,431; Now U.S. Patent No. 6,161,134.

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09/405,283; now U.S. Patent No. 6744759

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1 No. 09/406,151; now U.S. Patent No. 6795429.

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- * "System and Method for Providing Service Provider Configurations for Telephones in a Data Network Telephony System" to Schuster, et al., Serial No. 09/406,066;
- * System and Method for Using a Portable Information Device to Establish a Conference Call on a Telephone Network" to Schuster, et al., Serial No. 09/406,128; *now U.S. Patent No. 6,577,688.*
- * "Multiple ISP Support for Data Over Cable Networks" to Ali Akgun, et al., Serial No. 09/321,941;
- * "Method and System for Provisioning Network Addresses in a Data-Over-Cable System" to Ali Akgun, et al., Serial No. 09/218,793; *and now U.S. Patent No. 6,657,991*
- * "Network Access Methods, Including Direct Wireless to Internet Access" to Yingchun Xu, et al., Serial No. 08/887,313, *now U.S. Patent No. 6,151,688.*

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 913-0001

Number Portability and Advanced Call Screening in a SIP-Based IP Telephony System,"
IEEE Communications Magazine, July, 1999, pp. 96-101; and U.S. Patent Application
No. 09/181,431 ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,161,134} "Method, Apparatus and Communications System for Companion
Information and Network Appliances," filed on October 30, 1998, by Inventors Peter Si-
5 Sheng Wang and Ismail Dalgic, assigned to 3Com Corporation, both of which are
incorporated by reference herein.

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